

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A golf ball comprising a core and a cover formed of a cover resin composition, ~~characterized in that~~wherein said core has a hardness corresponding to a compressive deflection amount of at least 3.5 mm when the load applied thereto is increased from an initial load of 10 kgf to a final load of 130 kgf, said cover resin composition has a melt flow rate of at least 3 as measured according to JIS K7210, and said cover has a gage of up to 1.7 mm, and

wherein said cover resin composition comprises (a) at least one component selected from the group consisting of olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymers, olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylic acid ester copolymers, and metal ion-neutralized products of these copolymers and (b) a binary copolymer consisting of polyolefin and polyamide components in admixture as a resin component.

2. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein said core has a hardness at its center of 28 to 40 in Shore D hardness and a hardness at its surface of 35 to 52 in Shore D hardness, and the difference in hardness between the core surface and the core center is 3 to 20.

3. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein said cover resin composition comprises as a resin component at least one component selected from the group consisting of olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid copolymers, olefin-unsaturated carboxylic acid-unsaturated carboxylic acid ester copolymers, and metal ion-neutralized products of these copolymers.

4. (original): The golf ball of claim 1, wherein said cover resin composition has organic short fibers dispersed and incorporated therein.

5. (canceled).

6. (currently amended): The golf ball of ~~claim 5~~claim 1, wherein the polyamide in component (b) is in fiber form.

7. (currently amended): The golf ball of ~~claim 5~~claim 1, wherein a weight ratio of (a)/(b) is between 100/0.1 and 100/50.

8. (currently amended): The golf ball of ~~claim 5~~claim 1, wherein in component (b), a weight ratio of polyolefin/polyamide components is between 25/75 and 95/5.

9. (new): A golf ball comprising a core and a cover formed of a cover resin composition, wherein said core is formed of a rubber composition containing polybutadiene

synthesized with a rare-earth catalyst as base rubber, and the core has a hardness corresponding to a compressive deflection amount of at least 3.5 mm when the load applied thereto is increased from an initial load of 10 kgf to a final load of 130 kgf, said cover resin composition has a melt flow rate of at least 3 as measured according to JIS K7210, and said cover has a gage of up to 1.7 mm.

10. (new): A golf ball comprising a core and a cover formed of a cover resin composition, wherein said core has a hardness corresponding to a compressive deflection amount of at least 3.5 mm when the load applied thereto is increased from an initial load of 10 kgf to a final load of 130 kgf, said cover resin composition has a melt flow rate of at least 3 as measured according to JIS K7210, and said cover has a gage of up to 1.7 mm and a Shore D hardness of 59 to 61.

11. (new): The golf ball of claim 9, wherein said cover has a Shore D hardness of 59 to 61.

12. (new): The golf ball of claim 9, wherein said core contains an organosulfur compound or organosulfur compounds.

13. (new): The golf ball of claim 12, wherein said organosulfur compounds include thiophenols, thionaphthols, halogenated thiophenols, and metal salts thereof.

14. (new): The golf ball of claim 10, wherein said core contains an organosulfur compound or organosulfur compounds.

15. (new): The golf ball of claim 14, wherein said organosulfur compounds include thiophenols, thionaphthols, halogenated thiophenols, and metal salts thereof.